GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6143
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005
RESERVATION OF SEATS FOR SCS STS AND WOMEN IN NAGALAND MUNICIPALITIES PANCHAYATS
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Article 243T of the Constitution of India provides reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women in Municipalities and Panchayats;

(b) if so, whether the Nagaland Government failed to carry out the provision of the Constitution of India to provide any reservation of seats for women, Sche duled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Municipalities and Panchayats;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the instructions/directions issued by the Union Government to Government of Nagaland in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANISHANKAR AIYAR):

(a) Article 243 T of the Constitution provides for reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes

(SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) in every municipality in proportion to their population and not less than 1/3rd of the total number of seats for women that are required to be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a municipality. This Article is not applicable to Panchayats.

(b) As per Article 243 M(2), Part IX of the Constitution relating to Panchayats is not applicable to the State of Nagaland. In respect of Municipalities, the Ministry of Urban Development have stated that the Government of Nagaland have informed that Ministry that the State Municipal Act has no provision for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as the State is predominantly populated by Scheduled Tribes and no Scheduled Caste has been notified in the State. There is also no provision for reservation of seats for women in the State Municipal Act.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Urban Development have stated that since the provisions of Article 243T of the Constitution are mandatory, the State Government has been asked vide Ministry`s letter dated 25th April, 2005 to take necessary action for the implementation of this provision.